Board of Directors Holds Annual Meeting

During its Annual Meeting on December 9 and 10, 2016, the NBOME Board of Directors reviewed and addressed several key areas and priorities for 2017. Meeting highlights included:

- A report with highlights of the year by President and CEO John R. Gimpel, DO, MEd.

- A special report by Janice A. Knebl, DO, MBA, Chair of the COMLEX-USA Composite Examination Committee, which ensures the validity, reliability and defensibility of the COMLEX-USA examination series, with plans for implementing the new COMLEX-USA Master Blueprint 2018-2019. Announcements and updates regarding enhanced eligibility criteria for COMLEX-USA, and expanded information on the COMLEX-USA Master Blueprint and test administration details for 2018-2019 are expected to be released by July 2017.

- Discussion with American Osteopathic Association leaders John Becher, DO, Immediate-Past President, and Mark Baker, DO, President-Elect on recent developments with the AOA Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists and Osteopathic Continuous Certification.

- An update on the NBOME newest assessment platform, CATALYST. CATALYST is a flexible, innovative assessment platform that supports lifelong learning and continuous professional development. It has customizable features that make it perfect for assessment used across the continuum, including as an alternate way to assess knowledge for continuous board certification (e.g., American Osteopathic Association’s Osteopathic Continuous Certification program), resident in-service assessment, and other assessment needs. Test questions reflecting the content required are delivered to examinees on smart phones, tablets, or other devices of choice as determined by the client program, including other features that can include flexible frequency and timing, immediate feedback, spaced repetition and assessment of examinee’s confidence and the relevance of the content to his or her practice.

- Report on NBOME’s two National Centers for Clinical Skills Testing (i.e., Philadelphia and Chicago), with standardized COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE clinical skills testing at both locations and adaptability for client assessments, including performance tests, practical exams, and other simulation-based assessment. The National Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners joined the NBOME list of client programs with their APMLE CSPE clinical skills examination for licensure in 2016.

- Adoption of the new NBOME Strategic Plan 2017-2019 ACEL (Align-Connect-Experience-Learn) priority goals which will guide the organization throughout 2017.

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The 2017 NBOME Board of Directors (missing from the photo, John Goudreau, DO, PhD and Susan Belanger, PhD, RN, MA)

NBOME Board Vice-Chair Dana C. Shaffer, DO; NBOME President & CEO John R. Gimpel, DO, MEd and NBOME Board Chair Gary L. Slick, DO, MA

New Board member Donald H. Polk, DO (left) with Ronald R. Burns, DO, Richard A. Ortoski, DO and John L. Goudreau, DO, PhD.

NBOME Board and Executive Committee Members: Wayne R. Carlsen, DO, Immediate Past Chair, J. Michael Finley, DO, and Geraldine T. O'Shea, Secretary-Treasurer.

New Board member Mousumi Som, DO, MS (left) with Anita Showalter, DO.
William G. Anderson, DO, a widely recognized osteopathic physician and general surgeon, civil rights leader and speaker, received the Santucci Award, the highest honor bestowed by the NBOME. The Santucci Award is presented to an individual for his or her sustained outstanding contributions to the NBOME mission.

Dr. Anderson, an active member of the NBOME Board of Directors from 2003 through 2014, was a member of the Executive Committee from 2007 to 2010 and throughout his illustrious career he enriched the profession and touched the lives of many individuals. A professor of surgery and Senior Advisor to the Dean at the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Anderson holds the distinction of being the first African American to serve on the Board of Trustees of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and was AOA president in 1994 and 1995. He also served as Associate Dean of the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine and as Clinical Professor of Osteopathic Surgery at Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Born in Americus, Georgia in 1927, Dr. Anderson attended Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine. In Albany, Georgia in 1957, he was prevented from treating patients because of segregationist policies. In response, he founded and became the first president of the Albany Movement, which worked to register African American voters and devised ways to end racial segregation. With this achievement, Dr. Anderson became a pioneer in the Civil Rights Movement and a personal friend and colleague of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A member of the Physicians for Social Responsibility, he remains a sought after speaker on osteopathic medicine and civil rights. In 2014, the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine’s award-winning civil rights lecture series was renamed as the “Dr. William G. Anderson Lecture Series: Slavery to Freedom.”

In presenting the award to Dr. Anderson, NBOME Board Chair Gary L. Slick, DO, MA said, “It is with great appreciation and honor that we acknowledge Dr. Anderson’s contributions to the NBOME, its mission, and indeed the profession at large.”
The NBOME Clark Award for Patient Advocacy was inaugurated on December 9, 2016 and presented to its namesake, Gary R. Clark. The NBOME Clark Award for Patient Advocacy recognizes individuals who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to patient safety, patient protection and quality of care.

“Gary Clark has been a tireless advocate for the premise that patients are best served by seeking care for osteopathic physicians who have qualified for licensure by successful completion of a valid, osteopathically distinctive licensure examination program,” said John R. Gimpel, DO, MEd, NBOME President and CEO.

The second public member of the NBOME Board, Clark served the NBOME Board of Directors and Executive Committee with distinction from 2007 through 2015. He has devoted his career to organizations associated with physician licensure and professional regulation at both the state and national levels. In 2007, he retired from the Oklahoma State Board of Osteopathic Examiners, having served for more than 30 years as executive director for state medical boards in Oklahoma and Missouri. A strong voice for the osteopathic medical profession, Mr. Clark served multiple terms on the Board of Directors of the Federation of State Medical Boards, and was a member of the Board of Directors and president of the Council of State Governments’ Clearinghouse on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation.

Marking the inauguration of the NBOME Clark Award for Patient Advocacy, the award is presented to Gary R. Clark, by Gary L. Slick, DO, MA, Board Chair (left) and John R. Gimpel, DO, MEd, President & CEO.

Deborah L. Pierce, DO, MS, Recognized for Outstanding Service

Deborah L. Pierce, DO, MS, was recognized for completing 12 years of service on the NBOME Board of Directors. Dr. Pierce has devoted countless hours in service to the NBOME since 1995, serving as an item writer for the COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE, on COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE item and test review committees, as vice coordinator and coordinator for COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE, and as chair of the COMLEX-USA Composite Committee. She also served on the NBOME Executive Committee, Nominating Committee and Innovations in Testing Advisory Committee. Dr. Pierce co-authored a publication on the correlation of performance on COMLEX-USA examinations with that of Emergency Medicine In-Training residency exams.

She is the Program Director of Medical Education for the Emergency Medicine Residency Program at Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia, as well as Associate Director of the Emergency Department at Einstein at Elkins Park Hospital.

Deborah L. Pierce, DO, MS, was honored for her service to the NBOME Board of Directors by Gary L. Slick, DO, MA, Board Chair (left) and John R. Gimpel, DO, MEd, President & CEO.
NBOME Welcomes New Board Members

On December 10, 2016, the NBOME elected three new members to the Board of Directors.

**Mollie M. James, DO, MPH, FACOS, FACS**, is a practicing osteopathic surgeon in Iowa and a member of the Adjunct Clinical Faculty at Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine, her alma mater, and an instructor at the Institute for Functional Medicine. Dr. James completed post-graduate training in surgery at Des Moines University and Des Moines Medical Center, and completed her training in critical care at the University of Minnesota. She is currently pursuing certification in Functional Medicine at the Institute for Functional Medicine. Prior to relocating to Iowa, Dr. James was Assistant Professor at the University of Minnesota in the Division of Critical Care and Acute Care Surgery.

Dr. James is board certified in General Surgery and Critical Care Surgery by the American Osteopathic Board of Surgeons, and is a fellow with both the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons and the American College of Surgeons. She has delivered and authored numerous presentations in the areas of surgery and critical care medicine. A member of the NBOME National Faculty since 2011, Dr. James was honored in 2013 as the Item Writer of the Year for the COMLEX-USA Level 3 examination.

**Donald H. Polk, DO**, is a practicing osteopathic family physician, and has been an active member of the medical staff at Wayne Medical Center in Waynesboro, Tennessee, since 1975. During his tenure at Wayne Medical Center, he has served as Secretary, Vice-Chief of Staff, Chief of Staff, Medical Director and Director of Emergency Services. Dr. Polk is a 1973 graduate of the Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine, now the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed a rotating internship in Mt. Clemens, Michigan, and is board certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Family Practice (AOBFP). He is an active member of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and served on the Tennessee Board of Osteopathic Examination from 1996 to 2016 and was Chair from 2014 to 2016. Dr. Polk is a Fellow with the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB), where he served on the Board of Directors from 2010-2016, and as Chair of the FSMB from 2014-2015. He has held numerous offices on the boards of the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association, Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians and the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians, in addition to many others.

In addition to his extensive service to the medical profession, Dr. Polk has a distinguished and decorated military service. A member of the NBOME National Faculty, Dr. Polk served on the Standard Setting Panel for the COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE examination in 2012 and 2015.

**Mousumi Som, DO, MS, FACOI**, is Associate Professor of Internal Medicine and Vice Chair of the Department of Internal Medicine at Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine (OSU-COM) in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where she is also the program director for the ACGME-accredited internal medicine residency program. Dr. Som is a 2006 graduate of the University of North Texas Health Science Center-Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNTHSC-COM) in Fort Worth, Texas and also holds a master’s degree in Clinical Research and Education from the UNTHSC Graduate School of Biomedical Science. She completed her residency training at the OSU Medical Center in 2009 and received the OSU Center for Health Sciences Regents Distinguished Teaching Award in May 2016.

Dr. Som is a member of the OSU Board, and serves on the OSU Osteopathic Foundation and a Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Internists. Committed to education, research, and scholarly activities, she is a frequent contributor to the *Oklahoma DO: The Journal of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association*. She is a member of the NBOME National Faculty, having served as the Internal Medicine COMAT Chair since 2014, and previously serving on the COMLEX-USA Item Review Committee, and as a member of the NBOME 2014 Standard Setting panel.
Visitation Day at the NBOME

On November 7, 2016, the NBOME welcomed 18 guests from 10 colleges of osteopathic medicine and the North Carolina Medical Board for Visitation Day at the Chicago Corporate Offices and Conference Center. The group toured the new National Center for Clinical Skills Testing (NCCST)-Chicago, received information about the COMLEX-USA examination series and learned about NBOME innovations and initiatives. NBOME hosts a visitation day twice a year for colleges of osteopathic medicine, state licensure boards, certification boards and membership organizations. The next Visitation Day will take place in spring 2017 at the NBOME Philadelphia Executive Office and NCCST. If you are interested in learning more or attending a Visitation Day in 2017, let us know. For more information and to reserve your place, contact Rachel Maxwell at rmaxwell@nbome.org.

NBOME recently hosted a group of subject-matter experts selected by the National Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners (NPBME) for the American Podiatric Medical Licensing Examination (APMLE) Part II Clinical Skills Patient Encounter (CSPE) Standard Setting meeting. From August through October 2016, NBOME administered 50 sessions of the APMLE Part II CSPE examination to 581 podiatry students.

NPBME representatives joined with NBOME for a Standard Setting Review at the NCCST-Philadelphia.
Connecting with the Medical Education Community

In November 2016, NBOME participated in assemblies of leaders in graduate medical education at the AMA Council on Medical Education Stakeholders’ Forum and the Organization of Program Directors Association at the Council of Medical Specialty Societies 2016 Annual Meeting/. The American Medical Association (AMA) Council on Medical Education Stakeholders’ Forum focused on implications of the single GME accreditation process, growth in osteopathic and allopathic medical schools, availability of training slots, and challenges and benefits in training MD and DO trainees and faculty. NBOME provided updates on the COMLEX-USA examination series and shared support for a single GME accreditation system that assures accountability and competency of physicians in GME programs and enables both DO and MD residents access to primary and subspecialty accredited training programs.

The Organization of Program Director Associations (OPDA) is dedicated to promoting the role of the residency program director and program director societies in achieving excellence in graduate medical education. NBOME delivered updates along with other attendees, including the National Residency Match Program (NRMP), American Medical Association (AMA), National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME), Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS), American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

As part of the ongoing outreach to the Federation of State Licensing Boards and its individual state member boards, the NBOME recently presented an informational update to the Pennsylvania State Board of Osteopathic Medicine.. NBOME welcomes the opportunity to present to state medical licensing boards and share information about the new initiatives, the COMLEX-USA series, and the COMVEX examination, which provides state medical licensing boards with a clear evaluation of a candidate’s knowledge of current osteopathic medical practice. For more information, please contact us at communications@nbome.org.

The NBOME’s Mission

To protect the public by providing the means to assess competencies for osteopathic medicine and related health care professions